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Urban District of
PORTSLADE-BY-SEA

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REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the Year 1951

by

N. E. CHADWICK, M.A. M.D., D.P.H.



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N. E. CHADWICK, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.

SANITARY AND HOUSING COMMITTEE.

Councillor A. J. BROOMFIELD, J.P.
(*Chairman of the Council*).

Chairman—Councillor H. A. KING.

Councillor Mrs. E. F. CAVE, J.P.

Councillor S. HARRIS.

Councillor W. HUNT.

Councillor W. E. PHILLIPS.

Councillor C. T. SMITH.

Councillor Mrs. B. M. STEPHENS.

Councillor Mrs. A. M. WILLIAMS.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—

N. E. CHADWICK, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.

SANITARY INSPECTOR—

A. DONALD, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I., C.R.S.I.

Urban District of Portslade-by-Sea

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1951.

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1951, and once again I have to record a year in which the general health of the inhabitants and the incidence of infectious disease was not above the average except in Scarlet Fever. In that connection there was a small outbreak in a large residential school which was eventually controlled by the segregation of the carriers when they had been discovered by wholesale swabbing of boys and staff. In the extensive task of examining these 300 specimens I gratefully acknowledge the ready co-operation of Dr. Jameson and the staff of the Public Health Laboratory, Brighton. It is noteworthy that there were no cases of Poliomyelitis throughout the year and apart from one case in December 1950, no further cases of smallpox during the outbreak which terminated in February 1951.

The returns for Diphtheria Immunisation show that although the age-group 5-15 show a protection rate of about 86%—a decided improvement on last year's total, the rate for the under 5's is only about 42%. There were no cases of diphtheria in Portslade during the year. The vaccination figures, as might be expected, show a very great increase over the numbers in 1950.

The number of cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified which includes transfers from other areas fell from 19 to 15, whilst the deaths rose from 2 to 9—7 of which, however, were in long-standing cases over the age of 45.

It would appear that the population of Portslade after the proportional increases following the war, has for the time being stabilised itself round about the 13,500 mark, but while as might be expected, the Death Rate remained almost exactly as last year's 11.74, the Birth Rate has continued to fall slightly. On the other hand the Infant Mortality Rate is considerably below last year's.

I have as in past years, to record my thanks to the Clerk to the Council, Mr. Tozer, the Surveyor, Mr. Rudgley, and especially the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Donald, and for the support I have once again received from the Sanitary and Housing Committee.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

N. E. CHADWICK,

Medical Officer of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population : 13,510.

BIRTHS :		M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	..	84	83	167
Illegitimate	..	7	5	12
Birth Rate : 13.24 (Standard).				
12.84 (Corrected).				

STILL BIRTHS : 9.

1. Rate per 1,000 Births : 50.20.

DEATHS :

Male .. 69

Female .. 85 Total : 154.

Death Rate : 11.39 (Standard).

11.74 (Corrected).

Number of women dying in or in consequence of Child-birth : Nil.

Death of infants under 1 year of age : 3:

Rate per 1,000 births : 16.75.

Deaths from :

Measles (all ages) ..	..	Nil
Whooping Cough (all ages) ..	..	1
Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ..	..	Nil
Pneumonia ..	..	4
Cancer (all forms) ..	..	28

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

DRAINAGE.

The whole of the public roads in the district are sewered by gravitation on the water carriage system.

All houses in the District are connected to the public sewers with the following exceptions :

There are 9 houses served by cesspools, of these cesspools 2 have no sewerage facilities in the neighbourhood and 2 do not, as regards the statutory distance, come within the requirements of the Act.

In addition there are 4 houses, situate in outlying parts of the District, provided with earth closets.

All sewerage is discharged into intercepting sewers which are under the control of the Portslade and Southwick Outfall Sewerage Board. Disposal is by means of Sea Outfall owned by the Board.

SANITARY INSPECTOR. The Sanitary Inspector has prepared the following Annual Statement of his visits and notices :

Houses inspected for housing defects	..	394
Number of inspections made for the purpose		580
Houses inspected under Public Health Acts	..	364
Number of inspections made for that purpose		490
Number of complaints received		356
Informal Notices served (P.H. & H. Act)	..	123
Statutory Notices served		8
Houses found dirty or verminous	..	19
Houses with insufficient refuse bin	..	18

Defective Drains	..	..	..	167
Defective Closets	..	..	..	30
Defective Sinks	..	..	..	8
Defective Roofs and Gutters	..	..	..	114
Defective Paving of Yards	..	..	..	3
Damp and Defective Walls and Ceilings	..	..	..	233
Defective Floors	..	..	..	35
Defects to Windows, Doors, Grates, etc.	..	..	..	132

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

The campaign in the eradication of Rats and Mice within the district has been continued throughout the year, and although a considerable amount of treatment was carried out more could be done if the public would report all cases of infestation immediately.

Two maintenance treatments were carried out on the district's sewer's, when only slight infestation was found to exist.

During the year 173 infestations on surface properties was dealt with and 692 visits were paid for that purpose, an increase in the number dealt with last year.

This increase is probably due to the free service now given and not to an increase in the rat population.

Eradication of bed bugs.

- (1) During the year 10 houses were found to be infested with vermin, and were disinfested as follows :
- (2) By removing and easing all woodwork, architraves, skirting-boards, etc., and spraying with insecticides, and in some cases by the use of gaseous fumigants.

This work has been carried out by the Council, and the cost of materials used has been charged to the Owner or Occupier.

HOUSING ACCOMMODATION PROVIDED AT 31st DECEMBER, 1951.

Council Houses and Flats	..	..	506
Requisitioned Property	..	..	17
Old Peoples Bungalows	..	..	12
Temporary Houses	..	..	19

The position as to outstanding applications for accommodation is as follows :

One or more adults	..	..	..	28
Man and Wife only	..	..	..	94
Man, Wife and 1 child	..	..	..	117
Man, Wife and 2 children	..	..	..	64
Man, Wife and 3 children	..	..	..	27
Man, Wife and 4 or more children	..	..	..	17
Aged Persons	..	..	..	61
Total				408

INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES.

1. *Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year :*

- | | | |
|---------|---|-----|
| (1) (a) | Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 394 |
| (b) | Number of inspections made for the purpose | 580 |
| (2) (a) | Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 | Nil |
| (b) | Number of inspections made for the purpose | Nil |
| (3) | Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | Nil |
| (4) | Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | 394 |

2. *Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	117
---	-----

3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the year :*

A. *Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 17 of the Housing Act, 1936.*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	30
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice :	
(a) By Owners	27
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil

B. *Proceedings under Public Health Acts.*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	4
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By Owners	4
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil

C. *Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.*

(1) Number of representations, etc., made in respect of dwelling-houses unfit for habitation	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted from owners, Section 19 (2) :	
(a) To render the house fit for human habitation	Nil
(b) As to usage other than for human habitation	Nil

D. *Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.*

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms the Closing Orders in respect of which were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY. There is only 1 Farm in the district from which milk is supplied.

There is 1 Dairy in the district, 1 Cowkeeper, 12 shops where milk is sold in bottles only ; and 6 Retailers and Dairy-men who deliver milk in this district.

ICE CREAM. There are 2 premises registered for manufacture of Ice Cream, and 40 premises registered for the sale of Ice Cream.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

The following foodstuffs were inspected and found to be unfit for human consumption :

55lbs. of beef, 32lbs. of lamb, 399lbs. of boiled ham, 8 tins of corned beef, 51lbs. of fish, 575 cans of food, 45 packets of jelly, 55 jars of jam, 15 bottles of sauce, $9\frac{1}{4}$ lbs of cheese, 38 jars of fish paste.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 & 1948.

PART 1 OF THE ACT.

INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		Occupiers prosecuted
		Inspect'ns	Written Notices	
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	27	25	4	<i>Nil</i>
Factories not included in above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	55	32	1	<i>Nil</i>
Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers Premises)	2	3	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i>
TOTAL ..	84	60	5	<i>Nil</i>

Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	1	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	2	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	3	3	—	2	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

	* New Cases				Deaths				Other Removals				Cases on Register				Totals
	Pul.		Non.		Pul.		Non.		Pul.		Non.		Pul.		Non.		
	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.		
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	3	3
5—10	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	4	4
10—15	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	4	4
15—20	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	1	—	3	3
20—25	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	3	6	2	12	12
25—35	4	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	2	—	2	15	5	1	21	21
35—45	2	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	7	—	—	12	8	—	20	20
45—65	—	—	—	1	4	1	—	—	2	4	—	—	9	5	—	17	17
Over 65.	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1
Totals	8	7	1	2	5	4	1	—	8	16	—	2	43	28	8	6	85

* These figures include "Inward Transfers"

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1951.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

DISEASE.		TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED
Scarlet Fever		72
Whooping Cough		55
Measles		240
Pneumonia		13
Dysentery		4
Erysipelas		2

VACCINATION DURING SMALLPOX OUTBREAK.

Portslade Residents.

	<i>At the Public Health Dept.</i>	<i>By Private Doctors</i>	<i>Total</i>
Number Vaccinated	2558	3847	6405

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION RETURN
FOR YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1951.

Number of Children who completed a Full Course of Primary Immunisation in the Authority's Area (including temporary residents) in the Year.

Age at date of final Injection		Total
Under 5	5—14	
120	114	234

Total Number of Children who were given a Secondary or Re-inforcing Injection (*i.e.*, subsequent to complete full course).

During Year ended 31st December, 1951.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION IN RELATION TO CHILD POPULATION.

Number of Children at 31st December, 1951, who had completed a Course of Immunisation at any time before that date.

(i.e. at any time since 1st January, 1937).

Age at 31-12-51, <i>i.e.</i> , Born in Year	Under 1 1951	1 1950	2 1949	3 1948	4 1947	5 to 9 1942-1946	10 to 14 1937-1941	Total under 15
Number Immunised	3	70	111	117	150	1050	730	2231
Estimated Mid-Year Child Population 1951		Children under 5. 1066			Children 5-14 1939			3005

The number of children immunized during the year was 171.

There were no cases of Diphtheria notified during the year.

VACCINATION ANNUAL RETURN FOR YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1951.

Number of Persons Vaccinated (or re-vaccinated) during Period.					
AGE AT DATE OF VACCINATION	Under 1	1 to 4	5 to 14	15 and over	Total
Number Vaccinated	100	224	974	1262	2560
Number Re-Vaccinated ..	—	121	569	3211	3901